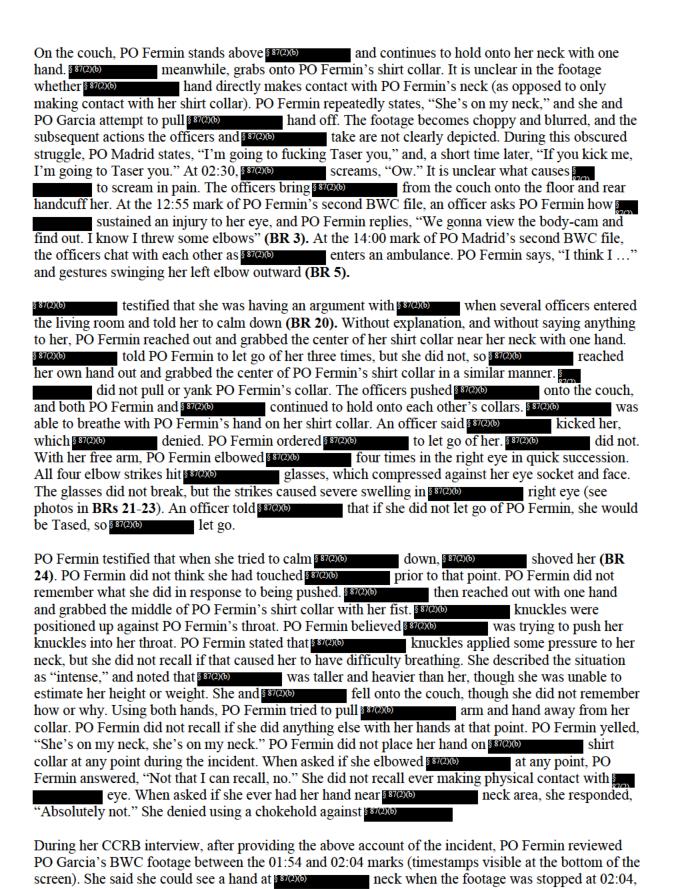
CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

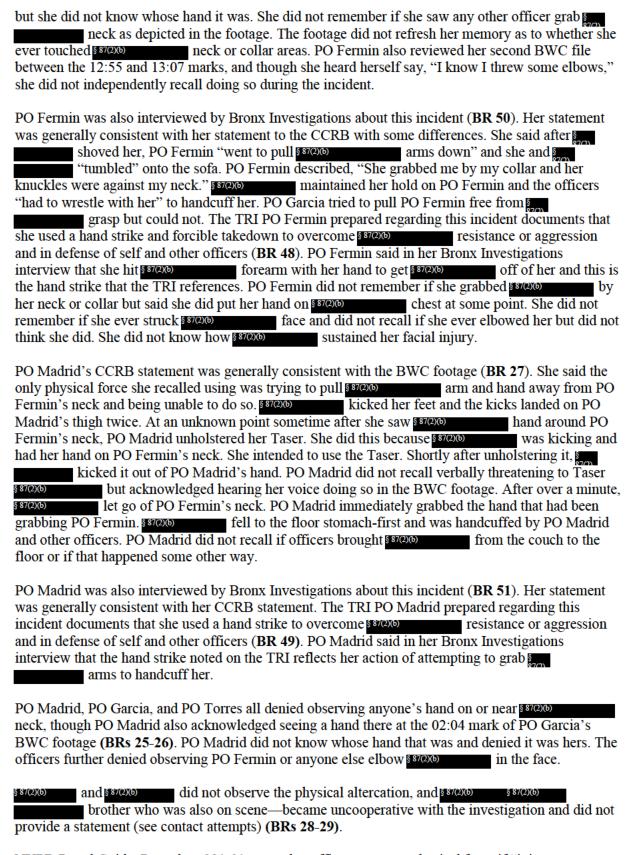
Investigator:		Team:	CCRB Case #:	☑	Force	\checkmark	Discourt.	\checkmark	U.S.
William Moss		Squad #13	201911054	V	Abuse		O.L.	V	Injury
Incident Date(s)		Location of Incident:			18 N	lo. SC	OL	P	recinct:
Saturday, 12/14/2019 9:00 AM § 87(2)(6)		§ 87(2)(b)				1/29/2022			44
Date/Time CV Reported		CV Reported At:	How CV Reported:		Date/Time	e Rece	eived at CCI	RВ	
Mon, 12/16/2019 5:19 PM		IAB	Phone		Thu, 12/2	6/2019	9 4:13 PM		
Complainant/Victim	Type	Home Addre	ess						
Witness(es)		Home Addre	ess						
Subject Officer(s)	Shield	TaxID	Command						
1. POF Krystal Madrid	22879	950997	SRG 2						
2. POF Erica Fermin	19765	962402	044 PCT						
Witness Officer(s)	Shield N	o Tax No	Cmd Name						
1. POF Yajaira Garcia	25061	962746	044 PCT						
2. POF Kimberly Torres	26835	965573	044 PCT						
3. SGT Harry Delacruz	00580	941272	044 PCT						
4. POM Kenneth Delgado	09814	950297	044 PCT						
5. POM Gary Reyes	15244	951129	044 PCT						
6. POM Michael Courtney	10450	962329	044 PCT						
7. POM Minh Tran	16458	961392	044 PCT						
Officer(s)	Allegatio	on			Inv	estiga	tor Recon	ıme	ndation
A . POF Erica Fermin	Force: Po § 87(2)(b)	olice Officer Erica Ferm	in used a chokehold	aga	inst				
B . POF Krystal Madrid		Force: Police Officer Krystal Madrid used physical force against § 87(2)(b)							
C . POF Erica Fermin	Force: Po	Force: Police Officer Erica Fermin used physical force against § 87(2)(b)							
D . POF Krystal Madrid	Abuse: Police Officer Krystal Madrid threatened with the use of force.								
E . POF Krystal Madrid		Discourtesy: Police Officer Krystal Madrid spoke discourteously to §87(2)(b)							
F . POF Erica Fermin	Abuse: P	Abuse: Police Officer Erica Fermin searched in the Bronx.							
G . POF Erica Fermin	Untruthful Stmt.: Police Officer Erica Fermin provided a false official statement to the CCRB.				ı				

Case Summary

On December 16, 2019, §87(2)(6) an employee of \$87(2)(b) Hospital. filed this complaint as an NYS Child Abuse referral with the NYPD's Special Victims Unit (SVU) on behalf of § 87(2)(b) who was 16 years old at the time of this incident. SVU forwarded the complaint to IAB on December 16, 2019, and IAB forward the complaint to the CCRB on December 26, 2019. On December 14, 2019, at approximately 9:00 a.m., officers from the 44th Precinct—including Police Officers Erica Fermin, Krystal Madrid, Yajaira Garcia, and Kimberly Torres—responded to a 911 call regarding an Emotionally Disturbed Person (EDP) at \$87(2)(6) placed by § 87(2)(6) in the Bronx. § 87(2)(6) the mother of § 87(2)(6) and the grandmother of the then 16-year-old § 87(2)(6) let the officers inside. In the living room, the officers observed and \$87(2)(6) arguing. The officers attempted to separate \$87(2)(6) A physical struggle between §87(2)(b) and the officers ensued, during which PO Fermin used a chokehold against [887(2)(6)] (Allegation A – Force: Chokehold; [887(2)(6)] and PO Madrid and PO Fermin used physical force against \$87(2)(b) (Allegation B – Force: Physical Force; S87(2)(9) Allegation C – Force: Physical Force; S87(2)(9) PO Madrid threatened to Taser § 87(2)(6) (Allegation D – Abuse of Authority: Threat of Force; PO Madrid spoke discourteously toward § 87(2)(b) (Allegation E – Discourtesy: Word; \$87(2)(2) PO Fermin searched a bedroom and a closet for \$87(2)(3) (Allegation F – Abuse of Authority: Search of Premises; \$87(2)(2) The officers forcibly to the hospital at EMS' direction (Allegation G - Abuse of Authority: Forcible Removal to Hospital; §87(2)(8) was not arrested or issued any summonses. The investigation determined that PO Fermin provided a false official statement to the CCRB on December 14, 2020 (Allegation H – False Official Statement; STO) The investigation obtained partial footage of the incident from the officers' body-worn-cameras (BWC). The footage is in IAs 141-149 (BRs 1-9), and the summaries are in IAs 160, 166-167, 170-172, 174, 180, and 182 (BRs 10-18). Findings and Recommendations Allegation A – Police Officer Erica Fermin used a chokehold against [87(2)(6)] Allegation B – Police Officer Krystal Madrid used physical force against [1570] Allegation C – Police Officer Erica Fermin used physical force against 887(2)(6) Allegation D – Police Officer Krystal Madrid threatened with the use of force. At the 01:35 minute mark of PO Garcia's BWC footage (timestamp visible at the bottom of the media player), the officers enter the apartment after a brief conversation with same at the front door (BR 1). They walk into a living room and observe \$87(2)(6) and \$87(2)(6) arguing. yells statements at \$87(2)(b) such as, "You should have had a fucking abortion with me," and \$87(2)(6) walks away. PO Fermin approaches \$87(2)(6) and repeatedly says, "Hey." PO and success pushes PO Fermin's arm off her. Fermin reaches out to touch \$8000 reaches down, picks up a pillow, and throws it in the direction of 887(2)(6) to calm down and reaches out toward her again, but [\$ \$7(2)(6) pushes her away. At 01:55, PO Fermin and PO Garcia attempt to grab onto \$87(2)(6) arms, and she tells them to get off her. She repeats, "Get the fuck off me," and extends her arms outward. PO Garcia grabs left forearm and says, "Sit." At 02:02, PO Fermin places her hand around neck near the middle of several shirt collar (see still photo saved to BR 19). PO Fermin's thumb is separated from her other fingers, which are outstretched, and \$87(2)(0) is in between PO Fermin's thumb and her index finger, consistent with a common choking hand gesture. PO Fermin and \$87000 fall onto a nearby couch with PO Fermin's hand still up against neck.

CCRB Case # 201911054





NYPD Patrol Guide, Procedure 221-01 states that officers may use physical force if "it is

CCRB Case # 201911054

reasonable to ensure the safety of a member of the service or a third person, or otherwise protect life, or when it is reasonable to place a person in custody or to prevent escape from custody. In all circumstances, any application or use of force must be reasonable under the circumstances" (BR 30). In evaluating whether force is reasonable, the Patrol Guide instructs officers to consider:

a. The nature and severity of the crime/circumstances; b. Actions taken by the subject; c. Duration of the action; d. Immediacy of the perceived threat or harm to the subject, members of the service, and/or bystanders; e. Whether the subject is actively resisting custody; f. Whether the subject is attempting to evade arrest by flight; g. Number of subjects in comparison to the number of MOS; h. Size, age, and condition of the subject in comparison to the MOS; i. Subject's violent history, if known; j. Presence of hostile crowd or agitators; k. Subject apparently under the influence of a stimulant/narcotic which; would affect pain tolerance or increase the likelihood of violence."

Officers are categorically prohibited from using chokeholds, which the <u>Patrol Guide</u> defines as "any pressure to the throat or windpipe, which may prevent or hinder breathing or reduce intake of air."

8 g 1 (2 / B)
The BWC footage shows an officer's hand pressed
against the front of \$87(2)(6) neck, both while officers are taking her to the couch and while sh
is on the couch (see photos saved to BRs 19, 31-32). [87(2)(6)] neck is positioned between the
officer's thumb and her other fingers. §\$7(2)(2)
PO
Madrid was farther away from behind PO Fermin on the couch, and the only other
officer immediately next to the physical struggle, PO Garcia, was wearing blue gloves (the hand
against § 87(2)(b) neck was ungloved).
§ 87(2)(g)
the <u>Patrol Guide</u> defines a chokehold as any application of
pressure to the throat or windpipe. The still photo saved to IA 272 shows that PO Fermin's hand was
directly pressed against \$87(2)(6) throat \$87(2)(6) \$87(2)(6)
PO Fermin was unable to provide a rationale for
placing her hand there, as she denied doing that.
§ 87(2)(g)
Between the BWC footage and civilian and officer
statements, the investigation determined that PO Fermin and PO Madrid collectively pulled
hand and arms, hit her forearm in an attempt to get her to release her hold of PO Fermin,

pushed her onto the couch, brought her to the floor, and pulled her arms back to rear handcuff her.
PO Fermin admitted to elbowing on the BWC footage, it is unclear when exactly she did that, as the BWC footage does not clearly depict the physical struggle and she did not recall doing it.
by the officers. §\$7(2)(6) was unarmed and greatly outnumbered
The threats came shortly after PO Fermin repeatedly said, "She's on my neck," (\$3700) denied kicking PO Madrid, she was actively resisting police custody when PO Madrid issued the threats by wiggling her body and repeatedly telling the officers to get off her. (\$3700)
Allegation E – Police Officer Krystal Madrid spoke discourteously to At the 02:04 mark of PO Garcia's BWC footage (timestamp visible at the bottom of the screen), the officers struggle with on the couch (BR 1). PO Fermin says, "Get off me, she's on my neck," and PO Madrid states, "I'm going to fucking Taser you." At 02:35, an officer tells "Give me your fucking arm." The officers manage to get (Figure 1) on the floor and handcuff her. At 03:05, PO Madrid says, "She had her hand around her fucking neck." (Figure 2) hears the comment and replies that she had her hand on the officer's collar and not her neck. PO Madrid responds, "No, you had it around her fucking neck."
PO Madrid did not recall stating, "I'm going to fucking Taser you," or, "You had it around her fucking neck," but she acknowledged hearing herself make those statements in the BWC footage (BR 27). She did not recall why she made those comments. She did not believe she was the officer captured on BWC footage stating, "Give me your fucking arm," and she did not know who did say that.
The investigation determined that PO Madrid was the officer who said, "Give me your fucking arm," based on her voice as captured in her CCRB interview and at other points of the BWC footage.
According to DCT Case No. 2015-15012, though officers are to behave professionally and respectfully towards members of the public and to avoid the use of discourteous language, their use of profanities during stressful encounters does not necessarily constitute misconduct (BR 33).
A physical struggle ensued during which PO Fermin repeatedly stated that \$87(2)(6) was on her neck.

§ 87(2)(g)
Allegation F – Police Officer Erica Fermin searched \$5700 in the Bronx. At the 07:20 mark of PO Fermin's second BWC file (timestamp visible at the bottom of the media player), PO Fermin walks around the apartment, enters a bedroom, and opens the door to a closed closet (BR 3). She retrieves shoes from the closet and gives them to \$5700 replies that those are not her shoes. When PO Fermin searches for the shoes, \$5700 speaks with other officers and EMTs in a different room. \$5700 however, is fully cooperative with the officers and free to get \$5700 shoes when PO Fermin searches for them. Indeed, \$5700 ultimately retrieves the correct shoes for \$5700 and helps her put them on. The BWC videos do not capture PO Fermin or any other officers asking any of the civilians for permission to search the apartment for shoes.
In their original statements, \$370,00 and \$370,00 did not mention this allegation, but in subsequent phone calls, they confirmed that they did not give officers permission to search the apartment for \$370,00 shoes (BRs 34-35).
PO Fermin acknowledged looking for strong shoes in a bedroom and a closet. She said there was no reason she specifically searched for the shoes rather than obtaining assistance from the civilians. No civilians told her that she could look for the shoes in either the bedroom or the closed closet (BR 24).
Under the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and Article I, §12 of the New York Constitution, officers may not search areas over which civilians maintain a reasonable expectation of privacy unless the civilians provide consent, or the officers prove exigent or emergency circumstances necessitated their search (BR 36-37).
It is undisputed that PO Fermin did not obtain the civilians' consent to search the apartment for shoes.
It is further undisputed that no emergencies or exigent circumstances required her to search for the shoes. [887@)@
Allegation G – Officers forcibly removed to the hospital. It is undisputed that EMTs removed to the hospital because they believed she was an EDP and needed to received treatment for her injured eye.
At the 11:20 mark of PO Garcia's BWC (timestamp visible at the bottom of the media player), an EMT states she is going to take \$3000 went to \$3000 went to a different hospital, and the EMT responds, "We are going to take her to \$3000 She will be transferred to the psych, and that's just how it's going to go."
who was were begal guardian at the time, testified that an EMT told her

CCRB Case # 201911054

CCRB CTS - Confidential Page 6

would be taken to \$87(2)(b) Hospital as an EDP (BR 28).
The ICAD for 911 job #88000 confirms that the incident was classified as a 10-54 EDP, meaning EMS was automatically dispatched to the scene (BR 38).
PO Torres, PO Garcia, and PO Fermin believed that the EMTs made the final decision to remove to the hospital (BR 24-26). PO Madrid did not recall who made that decision (BR 27).
NYPD Patrol Guide, Procedure 216-01 requires officers to cooperate with "ambulance/hospital personnel in every reasonable manner" (BR 39). NYPD Patrol Guide, Procedure 221-13 authorizes officers to take into custody civilians whom they believe are "emotionally disturbed" and likely to cause serious injury to themselves or others (BR 40).
The EMTs believed that \$87(2)(b) needed to be psychologically evaluated, as evidenced by the BWC and \$87(2)(b) testimony. \$87(2)(g)
Allegation H – Police Officer Erica Fermin provided a false official statement to the CCRB. As noted in the previous section, on December 14, 2020, PO Fermin denied ever placing her hand near neck area, denied using a chokehold against and denied that the hand captured at \$87000 neck in PO Garcia's BWC footage belonged to her, \$87000
Officers are prohibited from making false official statements, and will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal. Intentionally making a false official statement regarding a material matter will result in dismissal from the Department, absent exceptional circumstances. NYPD Patrol Guide , Procedure 203-08 (Board Review 54).
Whether PO Fermin made contact with \$87000 neck and placed her in a chokehold are material facts directly related to the FADO under investigation. When presented with the video evidence during her CCRB interview, PO Fermin acknowledged seeing a hand at \$87000 neck, but denied that it belonged to her.
 Civilian and Officer CCRB Histories This is the first CCRB complaint to which (BR 41). This is the first CCRB complaint to which (BR 42). PO Fermin has been a member of service for four years and has been a subject in one other CCRB complaint and two allegations, none of which was substantiated (BR 43). PO Madrid has been a member of service for nine years and has been a subject in three other
CCRB complaint and three allegations, none of which was substantiated (BR 44).

• Mediation, Civil and Criminal Histories

• This case was not eligible for mediation.

[§ 87(2)(b)] [§§ 86(1)(3)&(4)] [§ 87(2)(c)]

• As of January 19, 2021, the New York City Office of the Comptroller has no record of a Notice of Claim being filed regarding this incident (BR 47).

Squad No.: 13

Investigator: William L. Moss Inv. Will Moss 06/02/2021

Signature Print Title & Name Date

Squad Leader: <u>Laura Kastner</u> <u>IM Laura Kastner</u> <u>07/01/2021</u>

Signature Print Title & Name Date